

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214344

EXDIS; FOR AMBASSADOR FROM DICK MOOSE

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: RH, SF

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF RHODESIA PROPOSAL WITH SAG

1. IN A BRIEF CONVERSATION AT JAN SMUTS AIRPORT AUGUST 30, I SPOKE WITH BRAND FOURIE ABOUT FUTURE RHODESIA AND FUTURE US-SAG RELATIONS. I EXPLAINED TO FOURIE THAT WHILE WE HAD REFRAINED FROM SAYING SO DURING THE OWEN/YOUNG-VORSTER MEETING, INTRANSIGENCE ON SMITH'S PART WOULD INEVITABLY AFFECT US-SAG RELATIONS. THE US AND UK ARE DETERMINED TO MOVE AHEAD ON THE RHODESIA INITIATIVE. I SAID THAT WITH FRONT LINE AND PATRIOTIC FRONT SUPPORT FOR OUR PROPOSALS, PRESSURE WILL INEVITABLY MOUNT FOR MOVEMENT BY SMITH. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE VORSTER'S UNWILLINGNESS TO DICTATE TO SMITH, THE SAG WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ESCAPE THE CONSEQUENCES
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OF A REFUSAL ON SMITH'S PART TO TALK. THE IMMEDIATE CONSEQUENCE, I SAID, WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE A SPONTANEOUS MOVE IN THE UN FOR AN ARMS EMBARGO. I ALSO REMINDED FOURIE OF WHAT SECRETARY VANCE AND FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN HAD SAID TO BOTH IN LONDON ON THIS SUBJECT. IN CLOSING, I STRESSED THAT MY REMARKS WERE IN NO WAY MEANT TO BE A THREAT: I MERELY WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR FAILURE TO MAKE THIS

POINT TO VORSTER WAS NOT INTERPRETED AS A LACK OF SERIOUS-
NESS ON OUR PART.

2. FOURIE SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD WHAT I WAS SAYING. HE
ADDED THAT IT WAS JUST AS WELL THAT THE POINT HAD NOT
BEEN MADE WITH VORSTER DIRECTLY FOR HE WOULD HAVE REACTED
VERY STRONGLY. VANCE

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